

WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

PARK HOURS:

Sunday – Thursday: 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday – Saturday: 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.
365 days a year

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

Monday – Saturday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday: Closed

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

PARK FEES:

\$6 vehicle day-use entry fee (no additional fees for programs, unless otherwise noted)

DIRECTIONS:

FROM THE NORTH: Take 303 South and exit at Peoria Ave. Take Peoria west (right) to Cotton Lane. Turn south (left) on Cotton and then west (right) on Olive Ave. Follow Olive Ave. 6 miles to park entrance.

FROM THE SOUTH: Take I-10 to 303 North. Exit 303 at Northern Ave. Turn west (left) on Northern to Cotton Lane. Turn north (right) on Cotton and then west (left) on Olive Ave. Follow Olive Ave. 4 miles to park entrance.

WEBSITE:

www.maricopa.gov/parks/white_tank/



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
White Tank Mountain Regional Park
20304 W. White Tank Mountain Road
Waddell, AZ 85355
Phone: (623) 935-2505
Fax: (623) 535-4291
whitetankpark@mail.maricopa.gov



SEPTEMBER 2015 FEATURED PROGRAMS

Super Scorpion Search!

Date: 9/4/2015 **Time:** 7 p.m.

Description: How many scorpions can you count? Join us on this Super Scorpion Search to find out! Bring your scorpion light or purchase one at the entry station. Walk the Black Rock trail (short* or long loop) on your own to search for scorpions, then join us back at the ramada area to share your stories and complete a scorpion craft or project to take home. This great family evening event will take place at Area 4. Please wear close-toed shoes, and please leave your dog at home. *The Black Rock short loop trail (1/2 mile) is designated as a barrier-free trail and is wheelchair and stroller-friendly.

Core: Animals

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Family Movie with a Message

Date: 9/5/2015 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Join us in the Nature Center for a showing of the animated family film, *Over the Hedge*. RJ, a scheming raccoon, cons a mismatched "family" of furry forest creatures into helping him repay a debt of food by invading the new suburban sprawl that popped up while they were all hibernating. Bring your own snacks (no glass bottles, please) or purchase some at the Nature Center. This film is rated PG.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Stargazing for Everyone!

Date: 9/19/2015 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: Enjoy a night under the stars! Listen to presenting astronomers tell the stories of the sky as you gaze in wonder at our universe. View the moon, planets, star clusters, and distant galaxies through telescopes provided by presenting astronomers. Please bring a chair for the 45-minute presentation portion of the program. This event will be held at the Group Campground. Please try to arrive by 7:15pm to facilitate parking. The event will last approximately 2 hours. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Astronomy

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Pondering Petroglyphs

Date: 9/24/2015 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Petroglyphs, a form of rock art, are found throughout the world, including right here in the White Tank Mountains. If you have ever seen a petroglyph, it probably inspired lots of questions...Who made it? When? Why? What did it mean? Join Ranger Jessica, a former archaeologist, for a presentation about rock art, how it was made, and some of the potential meanings and functions it had to the cultures who created it. The presentation will include photos of some of the rock art found in the White Tanks as well as other locations in the Southwest. This program will be held in the Nature Center classroom.

Core: Archaeology & History

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MONTHLY EVENTS

Storytelling – Tales of the Sonoran Desert

Date: 9/1/2015 **Time:** 11 a.m.
Description: Join award-winning author and storyteller, Joyce Story, to hear entertaining desert tales, told in the spirit of Native American legends and Aesop's Fables. This great family event, held in the Nature Center classroom, will give you a new appreciation for the desert and its inhabitants, both past and present.
Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Super Scorpion Search!

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Description: How many scorpions can you count? Join us on this Super Scorpion Search to find out! Bring your scorpion light or purchase one at the entry station. Walk the Black Rock trail (short* or long loop) on your own to search for scorpions, then join us back at the ramada area to share your stories and complete a scorpion craft or project to take home. This great family evening event will take place at Area 4. Please wear close-toed shoes, and please leave your dog at home. *The Black Rock short loop trail (1/2 mile) is designated as a barrier-free trail and is wheelchair and stroller-friendly.
Core: Animals

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Early Bird Walk with Sonoran Audubon

Date: 9/5/2015 **Time:** 7:30 a.m.
Description: Join birder Joe Ford from the Sonoran Audubon Society for an early morning bird walk along the Wildlife Trail (less than 1/2 mile), which ends at a small nature pond. If time allows, the walk will continue along another nearby trail after completing the Wildlife Trail. Bring your bird book and binoculars if you have them. Binoculars may be available to borrow. After the walk, at 10:00am, Joe will be presenting a new program, "The Wonder of Wood Warblers", in the Nature Center classroom (see description below). Join Joe for the walk, the program, or both!
Core: Animals

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The Wonder of Wood Warblers

Date: 9/5/2015 **Time:** 10 a.m.
Description: They are nervous, flighty, tiny, and difficult to see, yet their songs enrich the symphony provided by our feathered friends in wooded areas throughout North America. Join Joe Ford

from the Sonoran Audubon Society to learn about the 50+ species of wood warblers that migrate hundreds of miles between our neighbors to the south and the north, passing through the United States along the way. This program will be presented in the Nature Center classroom after the morning bird walk.
Core: Animals

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Family Movie with a Message

Date: 9/5/2015 **Time:** 1 p.m.
Description: Join us in the Nature Center for a showing of the animated family film, Over the Hedge. RJ, a scheming raccoon, cons a mismatched "family" of furry forest creatures into helping him repay a debt of food by invading the new suburban sprawl that popped up while they were all hibernating. Bring your own snacks (no glass bottles, please) or purchase some at the Nature Center. This film is rated PG.
Core: Animals

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Snake Feeding

Date: 9/11/2015 **Time:** 3 p.m.
Description: Have you ever seen a snake eat its lunch? Join us in the Nature Center to watch park staff feed our residents critters, including rattlesnakes, scorpions, a gila monster, a black widow, and a tarantula.
Core: Animals

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Critter Riddles: Which Animal Am I?

Date: 9/12/2015 **Time:** 11 a.m.
Description: The Sonoran Desert is home to over 500 different types of animals, each one unique and amazing. Guess the identity of various desert critters by solving riddles that describe them. Join Ranger Jessica in the Nature Center classroom for this short, fun and interactive family program. You will also have the opportunity to meet some of these awesome desert dwellers in the Nature Center.
Core: Animals

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Storytelling – Tales of the Sonoran Desert

Date: 9/15/2015 **Time:** 11 a.m.
Description: Join award-winning author and storyteller, Joyce Story, to hear entertaining desert tales, inspired by Native American legends. This great family event, held in the Nature Center classroom, will give you a new appreciation for the desert and its inhabitants, both past and present.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Sonoran Story, Craft, and Play Time

Date: 9/16/2015 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.
Description: Join Ranger Jessica in the Nature Center classroom for this open house-style story, craft, and play time – arrive anytime during program hours (10:30am-12:00pm). A variety of age-appropriate board books, puzzles, stuffed animals, and coloring sheets about the Sonoran Desert will be available for you and your child for learning, discovery, and creative play. A desert-themed craft/project will also be available for your child to complete and take home. Maybe Ranger Jessica will even introduce you to one of the friendly snakes that live at the nature Center. This program is geared toward preschool-aged children and their caregivers, but older children are always welcome!
Core: Animals

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Stargazing for Everyone!

Date: 9/19/2015 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
Description: Enjoy a night under the stars! Listen to presenting astronomers tell the stories of the sky as you gaze in wonder at our universe. View the moon, planets, star clusters, and distant galaxies through telescopes provided by presenting astronomers. Please bring a chair for the 45-minute presentation portion of the program. This event will be held at the Group Campground. Please try to arrive by 7:15pm to facilitate parking. The event will last approximately 2 hours. Please leave your dog at home.
Core: Astronomy

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Core: Archaeology & History

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WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Family Moonlight Hike

Date: 9/26/2015 **Time:** 7 p.m.

Description: Experience the desert in a different light – moonlight! Load up the kids and join park staff and volunteers on a 1-2 mile walk along the Waddell Trail to look for scorpions and experience the desert at night. Please bring your flashlight (although you won't need it! – the moon will be our guide!), your scorpion light if you have one, and wear close-toed shoes. Please leave your dog at home. Scorpion lights (UV or blacklights are available for purchase at the entry station). Please meet at the Area 7 trailhead.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Snake Feeding

Date: 9/26/2015 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Have you ever seen a snake eat its lunch? Join us in the Nature Center to watch park staff feed our residents critters, including rattlesnakes, scorpions, a gila monster, a black widow, and a tarantula.

Core: Animals

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Adult Moonlight Hike

Date: 9/26/2015 **Time:** 7 p.m.

Description: Experience the desert in a different light – moonlight! Join park staff and volunteers on a 1-2 mile walk along the Waddell Trail to look for scorpions and experience the desert at night. Please bring your flashlight (although you won't need it! – the moon will be our guide!), your scorpion light* if you have one, and wear close-toed shoes. This walk is limited to those 16 and older. Please leave your dog at home. Please meet at the Area 7 trailhead. *Scorpion lights (UV or blacklights) are available for purchase at the entry station.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Early Morning Nature Hike

Date: 9/30/2015 **Time:** 6:30 a.m.

Description: Are you crepuscular? Set your alarm and find out! Join Ranger Jessica on a 3-4 mile nature discovery hike on mostly flat terrain to experience the "morning shift" in the desert. Please bring plenty of water and wear close-toed shoes. Please meet at the Horse Staging Area.

Core: Health & Fitness

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STAFF:

Park Supervisor: Raymond Schell

Interpretive Ranger: Jessica Bland

Admin. Staff: Nora Lee Taylor

Park Maintenance: Eldon Heydenreich and Lloyd Anderson

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MESSAGE FROM THE PARK SUPERVISOR:

Thank you for your continued support and interest in White Tank Mountain Regional Park. We realize that you have a choice when it comes to selecting recreation venues and appreciate your business!

Sincerely,

Raymond Schell

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